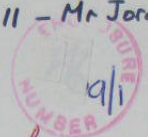


DGSR Subs 11 - Mr Jordan
Room 14B
D Block
Foxhill.



File 131/1/9.

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT LOOSE MINUTE

Secretary of State

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AUS(POL)
DGSR
DGSM
ACSA(N)
Legal Adviser-Mr Ellis
Head of SEC(FS)

Mr Jordan

Grateful for
clearance asap.

PRW 1/11.

Done by
telephone 2/11/88.

DISPOSAL OF DECOMMISSIONED NUCLEAR SUBMARINES

1. At the meeting of H Committee last February, you were invited by the Committee to consult other Government Departments about the legal, scientific and practical aspects of a programme to dump decommissioned nuclear submarines at sea, and to return to the Committee with proposals. I am pleased to report that considerable progress has been made in fulfilling this remit. However, it is apparent that there are still some awkward political problems. This minute reviews progress, analyses the difficulties and seeks your views about the next step.

TECHNICAL CASE

2. The bulk of the work which has been undertaken has been to ensure that sea disposal is viable from a technical point of view. The aim has been to comply with legal requirements which stipulate that the radioactive waste inside the submarine should be contained during handling, transportation and disposal, and that the release of radioactivity into the sea should be minimised. In addition it was necessary to protect the security of classified parts of the propulsion equipment.

c3/10

RESTRICTED/UNCLASSIFIED